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IDEA 0267-71 ✓  
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29 July 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: T-2 Training

1. Arrangements have been made to train three Project pilots and one LSO at Pensacola, Florida during the month of August 71. Project Headquarters initially coordinated with the Chief, Naval Training Branch, Washington, D.C. for a planning conference at Pensacola Naval Air Station on 22-23 July 71. Project Headquarters representatives included [redacted]

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attended from [redacted]. The conference was conducted to arrange for (1) a syllabus of instruction and (2) establish a background for the cover story to be used as a plausible explanation for civilian pilots becoming carrier qualified. [redacted]

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2. Personnel contacted at Pensacola included:

a. RAdm John Thomas - Chief Naval Air Basic Training (CNABTNG). Adm. Thomas has an "I" clearance.

b. Capt. White, Capt. Smith, Cmdr. Grant, and Lt. Tom Mitchel - Training Section of CNABTNG. (Phone # 922-2521 for Cmdr. Grant).

c. Cmdr. Dick Koch - Cmdr. VT-4  
Maj. Dick Ulm - Scheduler VT-4  
Maj. Brooks Pollack - LSO VT-4

3. The three drivers [redacted] accompanied by [redacted] will arrive 1 Aug and begin training 2 Aug. [redacted] primary duty will be to accompany the drivers through the carrier qualification, observe weaknesses or tendencies and requalify as LSO. The drivers will carrier qualify in the T-2 aircraft.

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NAVY review(s) completed.

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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4. Flight training schedule as follows:

2 August - Aircraft familiarization, course rules, cockpit checkout, preflight and engine start, complete basic aircraft exams.

3 August - Familiarization flights 1 and 2. (All flights will be conducted in Navy T-2 type aircraft).

4 August - Familiarization flights 3 and 4.

5 August - Emergency procedures and instrument check, NATOPS check.

9 August - Carrier qualification lectures.

10 August - Field Mirror Landing Practice (FMLP) flights 1 and 2.

11 August through 17 August - FMLP 3 through 10.

18 August - Make-up day.

19-20 August - Carrier Qual to include 8 traps.

5. Problem Areas:

a. Flight Equipment - It seems that the only USAF flight gear adaptable to flight in Navy airplanes is a pair of gloves and a flight suit. Attempts are underway to forward sizes, etc., of the drivers to Pensacola so the equipment necessary may be procured (helmet, mask, "g" suit, torso harness). Personal equipment is not available on a temporary basis.

b. Academy Midshipmen - During this period the midshipmen will also be undergoing flight training in the same flying squadron (VT-4). If a problem of priorities does arise, at present the midshipmen have first priority.

c. Delays because of the crammed schedule - Any unscheduled delays in the training schedule, such as weather, maintenance, re-flies, etc., would delay the completion date at least a week. The actual length of delay depends on the availability of an aircraft carrier.

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6. In summary, we were well received at Pensacola, the cover story is in concrete, the syllabus is outlined and arrangements have been made to meet all known commitments.



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Major, USAF

Attachment - 1  
Cover Story

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IDEA/O/OSA/[redacted]:dc (29 Jul 71)

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5 September 1969

A. GENERAL COVER

1. During training at Pensacola all IDEALIST pilots will be quartered off base in true name.

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4. No identification papers will be carried on the person of the pilots while actually engaged in flying.

B. CONTINGENCIES

1. In the event of an incident (bailout, accident) resulting in press inquiries, all queries will be referred to the commanding officer, Pensacola NAS. The latter will respond to queries in accordance with the following, but only after coordination with Headquarters.

2. If the incident involves a fatality the customary military procedure of deferring identification of the victim pending notification of next of kin will be adhered to.

3. If the mishap

X1. [redacted] he will be described as a Lockheed test pilot and his true name and home address will be given. If queried it may be stated that he was undergoing familiarization training in carrier based aircraft in accordance with an agreement between the U.S. Navy and Lockheed.

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